

Arkansas Insurance Department

Mike Huckabee
Governor



Julie Benafield Bowman
Commissioner

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Workers' Compensation Rates Show Overall Decline

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS (May 25, 2006) — State Insurance Commissioner Julie Benafield Bowman has announced new workers' compensation rates, which will become effective July 1, 2006.

"While the decrease is moderate, we are pleased to announce that the state's overall workers' comp rates continue to decline, with a very few industry lines showing slight increases," Commissioner Bowman stated. "Arkansas continues to enjoy one of the most stable workers' comp markets in the country."

Some companies may experience increases or decreases in excess of the industry average. The new rates reflect only industry averages and will have varying impacts on workers' comp rates when individual risk factors are applied for each business.

The following overall industry average rate changes will go into effect July 1, 2006:

Industry Group	Loss Cost Level Changes	Assigned Risk Rate Change
Manufacturing	+1.0%	-0.5%
Contracting	+3.6%	+2.0%
Office & Clerical	-1.0%	-2.5%
Goods & Services	-3.0%	-4.4%
Miscellaneous	-2.9%	-4.4%
OVERALL CHANGE	-0.5%	-2.0%

(MORE)

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The Arkansas Insurance Department is located at 1200 West Third Street (the corner of Third and Cross Streets) in downtown Little Rock. Its primary mission is consumer protection through insurer solvency and market conduct regulation and fraud prosecution and deterrence.

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